Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONTEV 01909 191855Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 /061 W
----------191859Z 089842 /43
P R 191600Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3872
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
HQ USSOUTHCOM SCJ2
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 1909

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, UY
SUBJ: NAVY SHAKE-UP UNDERWAY

REF: GRAHAM-OLSON TELECON, MAY 19

1. SUMMARY: NEW NAVY CINC MARQUEZ, USING A RECENT CHANGE IN LAW, HAS MOVED TO FORCIBLY RETIRE 41 SENIOR OFFICERS. THE AFFECTED OFFICERS HAVE BEEN MEETING TO DECIDE HOW TO PROTEST, OR EVEN TO COUNTER THE MOVE. HOWEVER, MARQUEZ IS SUPPORTED BY THOSE, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE, WHO BELIEVE DRASTIC STEPS WERE NEEDED TO END THE DEEP DIVISIONS WHICH HAVE SPLIT THE NAVY SINCE FEBRUARY 1973. THE ARMY'S LEADERS ARE BELIEVED TO BE READY TO FORCE OUT SOME 60 COLONELS, BUT THEY ARE AWAITING THE RESULTS OF MARQUEZ' PURGE BEFORE MOVING, AS THEY CONSIDER INSTITUTIONAL STABILITY WITH THE ARMED FORCES IS VITA. EAD SAG ARY.

2. UTILIZING AN APRIL 22 CHANGE IN THE ORGANIC LAW OF THE ARMED FORCES, WHICH PERMITS INVOLUNTARY RETIREMENT OF
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONTEV 01909 191855Z

SENIOR OFFICERS (SEE DAO 1R 6 900 0046 77, NOTAL), NAVY CINC VADM. MARQUEZ HAS MOVED TO FORCE 39 CAPTAINS AND TWO ADMIRALS INTO RETIREMENT. THE ADMIRALS, ROSSI AND ZORRILLA, HAVE BEEN WITHOUT ASSIGNMENT SINCE THE SOFT COUP OF 1973. MARQUEZ SUPPORTERS CLAIM THAT THE NEW NAVY CINC HAD TO ACT IN ORDER TO END THE DEEP DIVISIONS IN THE NAVY, DIVISIONS REMAINING SINCE FEBRUARY 1973 WHEN A LARGE NUMBER, PERHAPS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

A MAJORITY, OF PERSONNEL

REMAINED LOYAL TO THE PRESI-
DENT. DAO SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE
SUPPORT MARQUEZ' ACTIONS AS NECESSARY.

3. UNEXPECTEDLY, THE LIST OF THOSE SENT LETTERS ASKING
THEM TO RETIRE (IF THEY REFUSE TO DO SO, THE NEW LAW PRE-
SUMABLY WILL BE INVOKED AND THEY WILL BE INVOLUNTARILY
RETIRED) INCLUDES NOT ONLY CONSTITUTIONALISTS IN THE NAKH,
BUT ALSO SOME WHO WERE

HHE MARQUEZ HARD-LINE PERSUASION,
AND SOME WHO WERE APOLITICAL TECHNICIANS. THERE IS THUS NO
DISCERNIBLE CONCERN.MANY OF THESE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN
MEETING TO DECIDE HOW TO REACT. SOME HAVE ALREADY REPLIED WITH
LETTERS OF PROTEST, BUT THE GROUP IS DISCUSSING WHETHER TO
CHALLENGE THE LAW IN THE COURTS, TO APPEAL TO FORMER NAVY CINC
GONZALEZ OR TO ARMY LEADERS, TO ASK FOR HONOR TRIBUNALS OR
EYEN TO BESMIRCH MARQUEZ' SOMEWHAT SPOTTY PAST. THE APPECTED
OFFICERS BELIEVE THEY CAN ACCUSE MARQUEZ OF DEFAMATION
BECAUSE OF STATEMENTS HE HAS MADE OPENLY ABOUT THEM IN PLACES
SUCH AS A RECENT PARAGUAYAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION. THERE IS
SOME CONCERN THAT IF THESE OFFICERS PERSIST IN MEETING, THEY
MIGHT BE ARRESTED.

4. DAO SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE ARMY IS CONSIDERING
SIMILAR ACTION AGAINST SOME 60 COLONELS, BUT IS AWAITING THE
OUTCOME OF THEKXJMP'S ACTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING. SAME
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MONTEV 01909 191855Z

SOURCES INDICATE THE AIR FORCE HAS NO INTENTION TO USE
THE NEW LAW AGAINST ITS PEOPLE.

5. THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THE NAVY HAS BEEN SPLIT
DEEPLY OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS. SENIOR OFFICERS HAVE
BEEN QUITE OPEN IN THEIR CRITICISM OF MARQUEZ AND LOYALTY
WAS MINIMAL. OBVIOUSLY, THE REACTION OF THOSE FORCED INTO
RETIREMENT, AND HOW IT IS HANDLED, COULD IMPACT PROFOUNDLY
ON THE NAVY. HOWEVER, THE NAVY IS THE LEAST INFLUENTIAL OF
THE SERVICES. THE KEY SERVICE, THE ARMY, IS ONLYWATCHING
AT THIS POINT. TO DATE, THE GENERALS HAVE BEEN MOST CARE-
FUL TO MAINTAIN INSTITUTIONAL STABILITY IN THE BELIEF THAT
THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL RESTORATION UNDER THE CIVI-
MILITARY GOVERNMENT REQUIRED THE UNITY OF THE ARMED FORCES.
THEIR SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS, IF ANY, WILL BE FAR MORE
SIGNIFICANT.
HAAHR

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, LAW, RETIREMENT, MILITARY PERSONNEL, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MONTEV01909
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770179-0023
Format: TEL
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770539/aaaabhvu.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9ddbcc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2451060
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAVY SHAKE-UP UNDERWAY
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, MORG, UY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9ddbcc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009